Dear Jerry, 8/16/01

Clay and Katie both confirm that I said I wanted the books removed from my office, but in what else I learned from them I again urge you to try to straighten your head out. Your behavior, which I regard as unconscionable, is so different than it was in the past.

Clay and Katie both told me that I asked this of the three of you. Both told me that at the tike I said that they expected me to die. I think Clay told me and I know very well that Katie told me that at the time I was out of my head. Now there is only one period in the time I had pneumonia and was hospitalized that I could have appeared like death was imminent and that is the time you did not specify and Katie did, when I was first hospitalized. I was in that shape only a couple of days at the most.

Now what this means and you do not say is that by the time you could have begun to move any books I was quite rational and at the very least, from what you knew of me, had to be expected to return to writing again. And the fact is that I did that when I was still in the ~~hospital~~ NURSING HOME.

So, at the very least, you had ample time to ask me when I was again conscious if I'd really meant what I'd said. But you never mentioned that to me, as you never mentioned my state of mind then to me. Especially because you knew I had no need to move those books at all, having given away about 25 linear feet of books to get space in what was Lil's office. You also knew that those are the books I had used in what I had written for the past several years and might have included others about which I may have planned to write. You also knew that if any questions were raised I's require the books you moved to respond to those questions, AND you knew, too, that even for the spelling of names I had to consult them.

If, when I was out of my mind, I gave you any reason for wanting them in the ~~basemement~~ basement not one of you told me what it is and I believe that, without any question, you knew that I had no such need. Could have had none.

It had to have made no sense to you at all but you never mentioned it to me before you did it. And unless you did it within two days of my hospitalization, I certainly, beginning then, was no longer out of my mind and you would - should have-consulted me about it.

Compare this with what you knew for sure I had asked you

to do for at least a decade because it goes back to where I was in the basement with you and pointed out what was on the white shelves. I asked you, dozens to times, to please bring them up so I could go over them and dispose of what I could tell from the markings should have been disposed of and not later present any problem to you or anyone else late at Hood. But not a ~~sigle~~ single one of those packages or bundles did you do that with. Not even when it served you personal interest and yu went to remove the Altgens picture only to discoved that it, an original at that, and all the pieces of it that I had enlarged, along with all other picturesreprinted in that volume had disappeared from the package I had sealed when I put it aside after first publication.

Compare this, too, when we discovered other pictures missing in the Lovelady identification, I asked you several time to take ~~the~~ the other pictures I have, cannot replace, and you and Dave both indicated you intend to use them, and to place them in a secure place at Hood. You have not even done that when it can serve your personal interes, as making it possible for me to go over what was on those white shelves certainly would have.

There is more but this should tell you, if you can face it honestly, that this is not the kind of man you have been most of your life. So let us skip ahead to the Pat Gray business and the opportinity we had to make the content of the 18½ minutes Nixon erased from that tape public. You, the historian, buried them in the basement and you, the historian, have refused to do a thing to ~~tyem them~~ that available when faced with so fine a means of doing thst.

This is the way a historian thinks and behaves? Suppresses rather thah discloses? And especially now when there is expressed interest in trying to make th FBI honest, in reforming it.

This also is no the kindof person, the kind of historian, you used to be

These things trouhle me so deeply I cnnt work and have gotten little sleep beesuse of them . I do hope you can straighten your head out or, if you need it, get help

It also troubles me that you are capable af acting and speaking as you have to a man of my age and in the state of my health, which you do know. Indeed, do not give a damn about that.

Sincerely,

Harold

Harold